## **IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amended the first paragraph under BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION of page 1 of the disclosure as follows:

This application is a Continuation of nonprovisional U.S. <u>Patent No. 6,636,926 issued on October 21, 2003</u> Serial No. 09/740,816 filed December 21, 2000. Priority is claimed based on U.S. <u>Patent No. 6,636,926 issued on October 21, 2003</u> Serial No. 09/740,816 filed December 21, 2000, which claims the priority of Japanese application 11-366235 filed on December 24, 1999.